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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 000495

STPDTS

DEPARTMENT FOR USUN/W, BURNS, STEINBERG, MILLS. PLEASE PASS TO NSC FOR SHAPIRO AND KUMAR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/12/2019 TAGS: <u>PREL UN KWBG KPAL IS LY</u>

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL AND GAZA BOARD OF INQUIRY:

COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 13

REF: USUN NEW YORK 489

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Jeff DeLaurentis for reason s 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 11. (C) According to the Russian Council Presidency, the Libyan delegation on May 12 continued to insist that consultations on the Gaza Board of Inquiry report be scheduled by May 13 or they would call for a formal Council meeting under Rule 2 of the Council's rules of procedure. Ambassador Rice spoke with Russian Perm Rep Churkin who said he would arrange Council consultations under "other matters" on May 13 on the Board of Inquiry report. Churkin said he would help in avoiding any further meetings on this issue during the Russian Presidency but could not guarantee this as the Libyans could insist on a meeting under the Council's rules of procedure. Churkin also said he would support the United States in trying to prevent adoption of the Libyan draft resolution circulated to Council members on May 11.
- 12. (C) Once the Russian Council Presidency announced to Council members late on May 12 that it would raise the Board of Inquiry matter under "other matters" in consultations on May 13, the Libyan delegation postponed the experts meeting to discuss their draft resolution from May 13 to May 14. We understand that they may plan to put the draft text "in blue" shortly after the experts meeting and bring it to a vote soon thereafter. If the Council blocks action on the text, Libya would likely move the matter to the General Assembly. The Non-Aligned Movement, we understand, is discussing whether an emergency session of the General Assembly may be called on this matter. Reportedly, there is a divide between those arguing that this issue does not meet the criteria for an emergency session and those, led by Syria, who say that it does.

 Rice